

Environmental Justice Advisory Group Meeting
Illinois EPA

Minutes

February 11, 2014 10:00 am-12:00 pm
Video Conference and Teleconference

Attendees:

Illinois EPA Headquarters:

Ken Page (EJ Officer), Mike Ziri (Chief of Legislative Affairs), Brad Frost (OCR), Kurt Neibergall (Bureau of Land), Darin LeCrone (Bureau of Water), Al Keller (Bureau of Water), Chris Pressnall (Division of Legal Counsel), Chris Romaine (Bureau of Air), Amy Dragovich (Bureau of Water), Julie Armitage (Chief, Bureau of Air), Brenda Carter (Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group), Peter Wentz (University of IL at Springfield), Jim Monk (IL Energy Assn) and Mark Biel (Chemical Ind Council of IL)

Chicago-Thompson Center:

Elmo Dowd (Associate Director), Sharonda Williams (Environmental Justice Liaison), Alan Walts (Director, Office of Enf & Comp Assurance Region 5), Mayor Debbie Meyers-Martin and Tameka Gibson (Outreach and Policy Coordinator, Illinois Environmental Council)

Collinsville:

Amy Funk

Teleconference: Greg Michaud, Dhitinut Ratnapradipa, PhD. (SIU Carbondale), Keith Harley (Chicago Legal Counsel), Kathy Andria (American Bottoms), Antonio Lopez (LVEJO), Lisa Frede (Chemical Industry Council of IL) and Cheryl Johnson (People for Community Recovery)

- I. **Welcome:** Ken Page/Thank you for attending on behalf of Elmo Dowd, Associate Director, Lisa Bonnett Director and Sylvia Hood Washington.
- II. **Introductions:** Ken Page, IEPA EJ Officer
- III. **Presentations:**
 1. Michael Ziri, Chief of Legislative Affairs IEPA gave legislative updates re Spring 2014 proposals. Ken emailed list of SB and HB to advisory members.
 2. Title VI was discussed by Alan Walts, Director, Ofc of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance USEPA Region 5. This is 50th anniversary of Civil rights Act and 20th anniversary of Pres. Clinton's signing of Executive Order 12898. EPA has this information on our website regarding policy of Title VI complaints. Title VI complaints down from 28 to 15 open investigations. Need framework to analyze complaints. Discussed Title VI complaints alerting to EPA. ECOS work being done. January 2013 document was created making level playing field. Different states have different practices.
 3. Petroleum Coke – Julie Armitage, Chief, Bureau of Air discussed. Petroleum coke is a fine particulate carbon material. IL Law is regulated by PCB. Limit visible emissions and fugitive dust. Need to conduct inspections and issue violation notices. Some have been referred to Attorney General's Office. Formal complaints on file. Need onsite inspections. General rulemaking in pursuit of outreach efforts will continue per PCB.

Kathy Andria had question as to where these were found mostly in bulk terminals. Keith Harley had question on existing facilities and new facility applications. Governor and Director of IEPA have gone on record commenting permitting transactions on hold until figure out where we are at.

IV. Old Business

V. Open discussion:

Kathy Andria suggested EPA send copy of EJ notification letters to local newspapers in areas to get information out to everyone. Ken said would consider. Kathy will provide list of newspapers . Amy Funk has gotten calls regarding EJ notification letters. Wants name of facilities identified by what name is on property. Jim Monk had questions on EJ Public Participation Policy. Was this brought to EJ stakeholders for review. No it wasn't. IEPA isn't going to make this a rule. It will be considered a policy. Mark Biel has had several complaints from companies re permit applications. Chris Pressnall stated it is a timeline. Everyone needs to know upfront what's going on with the EJ notification letters. Kurt Neibergall suggested facilities take lead and come to EPA with what they're doing. Antonio Lopez LVEJO had question on any events for 20 year executive order. Alan Walts is planning event Feb 25th for Region 5 staff to volunteer for cleanup etc. Antonio would like email with list of events.

VI. Next meeting date and location:

To be announced.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.